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**Technology Lessons 4 Teachers**  
**Issue 15, Oct 2012**

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## 6 Great Music Creation Tools: Part 1 Incredibox, Soundation, & Isle of Tune

**Incredibox** – [www.incredibox.com](http://www.incredibox.com) – This site is fun, engaging, simple, & quick. The sounds are all created with human beat box, like the artist Bobby McFerrin. You get little guys that you drag & drop in effects, beats, melodies, chorus, or voices. A total of seven sounds you can add together. Mix the different sounds together to create a song with a great beat. I think this site is simple enough that elementary students could use it & would have fun with it.

**Soundation** – [soundation.com](http://soundation.com) – A little more GarageBand looking with the ability to mix & remix sound clips together. You get five tracks to place your clips to create original work. There is a gallery of 400 free sounds, or you can upload your own sounds. You can download your song or share it.

**Isle of Tune** – [www.isleoftune.com](http://www.isleoftune.com) – Create music by creating a city. Just drag & drop homes, light posts, trees, etc..., adjust the sound they make, & drop up to 3 cars in to play the music. You get a unique URL to use & share your creation. A great site for all ages, but especially for elementary. It is also available as an app for the iPad, iPod, & iPhone.



incredibox



# ActivInspire – More Tools

There are other tools that can aid you while using a flipchart. Go to **Tools > More Tools** & explore some of the options.

**On-screen Keyboard** – A floating keyboard that allows you to type at your board. This also appears when you click on the **Text** tool.

**Clock** – You can display it as analog, digital or both. You can also set it up as a timer that either counts up or down. It can then either play a sound or perform an action when it times out.

**Tickertape** – This is used to create messages to scroll across the screen. Displays over all applications. Can be saved & edited.

**Spellcheck Flipchart** – To spell check a word, be sure to select the word, then go to the **Object Edit Menu & Spellcheck Text**. Spell check doesn't work in the **Notes Browser**.

**Extract Text** – It creates a new text object from a selected word. Click on a word in a text box. Control click or right click & select **Extract Text**. Or double click to highlight a word in a text box. Then move the word & a copy will appear of that highlighted word.

## Websites 2 Check Out

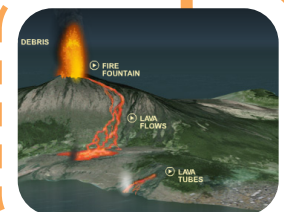
### Alphabetimals & Volcano Explorer

**READING** – **Alphabetimals** – [alphabetimals.com](http://alphabetimals.com)

A nice website to find some nice resources for helping young children learn the alphabet. The main feature is an interactive flipbook featuring animal sounds and the pronunciations of animal names. The site also offers free printable flashcards, an alphabet poster, & alphabet coloring pages.

**SCIENCE** – **Volcano Explorer** – [bit.ly/ObfldA](http://bit.ly/ObfldA)

The *Discovery Channel's* Volcano Explorer provides a small simulation that students can use to design a volcanic eruption, or as a class on the Promethean board. Using the Volcano Explorer students choose the magma viscosity & gas content to create a virtual volcanic eruption. When students make their selections the Volcano Explorer provides a short explanation of how those settings will affect the shape of the volcano & its eruption.



# ALL Learners

## Apps for Early Childhood & SPED



### EARLY CHILDHOOD

- \* **Timmy's Preschool Adventures** – Basic skills like matching, counting, patterns, colors, etc...
- \* **Toca Kitchen Monsters** – Cook & play with food for two hungry monsters. Great graphics!



### SPED

- \* **Autism Apps** – Lists useful/popular apps in approximately 30 categories relating to Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- \* **Catalyst HD** – Data Collection App for iPad & iPhone.



## Free Technology for Teachers

[www.freetech4teachers.com](http://www.freetech4teachers.com)

An educational technology blog by Richard Byrne that offers reviews of free technology resources & how teachers can use them in activities. 2 to 3 new tools every day with ideas for integrating the tool into lessons. Besides websites & apps that are reviewed, Mr. Byrne also offers free eBooks & Google tutorials to help teachers learn new tools available.

### eBooks

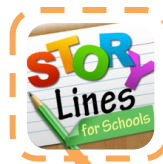
- \* How to Do 11 Techy Things in Your Classroom
- \* The Super Book of Web Tools for Educators
- \* 10 Digital Storytelling Projects
- \* 77 Things for Teachers to Try this Summer

### Google Tutorials

- \* Google Drive & Docs for Teachers 2012
- \* A Summer of Android
- \* Google Earth Across the Curriculum
- \* Create a Quiz Using Google Forms
- \* & much more!

# iPod Apps

## StoryLines, HISTORY Here, & Poem Flow



### ELEMENTARY – StoryLines for Schools

An award-winning game of 'telephone' with pictures. Learn new vocabulary & language concepts that are grade-appropriate, & spark your students' creativity in a safe, enjoyable manner. The game allows for 3, 5, 7, or 9 players. It begins with a player typing in a phrase or choosing an option from four different categories: elementary vocabulary, intermediate vocabulary, SAT words, or quotes. This allows the game to have an educational purpose, as players then have to visualize & draw out the phrase for the next player.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL – HISTORY Here

A free app that lets students enter a location or use their current location to find what historical events took place in the location they choose. Once they choose a location a map will appear with a 100-mile radius from the location & it also shows historical sites located in that radius. Students can touch the pinpoints to get the name of the site & a short blurb about why it is famous. The app comes from the *History Channel*.



### HIGH SCHOOL – Poem Flow

Allows for a unique presentation as each poem cascades slowly down the page. This is a less intimidating way to read each poem & reflect as the phrases slowly appear & disappear before your eyes.



## Discovery Education

[www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com)

Check out the Teacher tab! This site provides free access to lesson plans, student adventures, & amazing photos. Discovery Education brings the world into your classroom.



# Teacher Feature

## High School Teacher Tech Round Up

**Thomas Howard** – Students used cameras to record & collect data for their wind turbine project

**Vicky Joseph & Eileen Rodriguez** – Used the iTouches to have students listen to a native speaker & then recorded a passage to practice speaking fluently in Spanish (proper pronunciation, phrasing, etc.)

**Amy Fox** – Students created PSA movies & Glogster posters on topics of interest to teens

**Diane Ulrich** – Part of a process of writing unit, where students used digital cameras to record images to go alongside each step in the construction of a LEGO creation



## Let's Get APP-y

TEAR



Have a little free time on your hands to test out some new apps for your Apple or Android devices? Overwhelmed with all of the choices out there?

A few recommended, educationally-minded app review sites:

- \* Get hAPPY! – [gethappy.wikispaces.com](http://gethappy.wikispaces.com)
- \* IEAR – [www.iewar.org](http://www.iewar.org)
- \* Keystone AEA – [sites.google.com/site/keystonetechtips/ipad](http://sites.google.com/site/keystonetechtips/ipad)
- \* APPitic – [appitic.com](http://appitic.com)
- \* Mind Leap for PreK-8 – [mindleaptech.com](http://mindleaptech.com)



If you are a member of the 'cult of Apple' check out their featured App of the Week on the App Store. Starbucks offers free downloads via cards found in-store (usually near the stir sticks and sugar packets) – music, books, apps, & shows.

Let Mrs. Chou know what resources you use to round up apps.